GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:318
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2005
INFILTRATION THROUGH RIVERS AND CANALS
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to seal the entry points through the rivers and canals along the Bangladesh border to check illegal infiltration;

(b) whether in recent years there has been an increase in the cases of infiltration from such areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has made any assessment with regard to the total length of such entry points; and

(e) if so, the details of the safety measures taken so far in such areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a): The Government has taken several measures to check infiltration by sealing the entry points through the river and canals along the Indo-Bangladesh Border, wherever feasible.

(b)&(c) : The riverine areas being unfenced, such areas are prone to infiltration.

(d)&(e): Out of total 4096 kms length of Indo-Bangladesh Border, approximately 1116 kms of the International border is riverine. Reverine segments of the International Border are being dominated by BSF deploying boats and vessels. Troops deployed on the International border are maintaining surveillance over riverine areas by carrying out regular patrolling by boats and vessels. BSF has also deployed three floating BOPs and provided four fast patrol crafts with each BOP to dominate the riverine areas in West Bengal.